



**NEWSFLASH**

# Inside Sterling

Supervisor Koran T. Saines

Loudoun County  
VIRGINIA



## COVID-19 Updates & Important Information

~MARCH 30, 2021~

### COVID-19 Restrictions Easing in Virginia



#### **Governor Northam Signs Legislation Creating Tuition-Free Community College Program for Low- and Middle-Income Students**

'Get Skilled, Get a Job, Give Back' initiative will enable an estimated 36,000 Virginians to earn degrees in high-demand fields

[Read the Full Press Release](#)

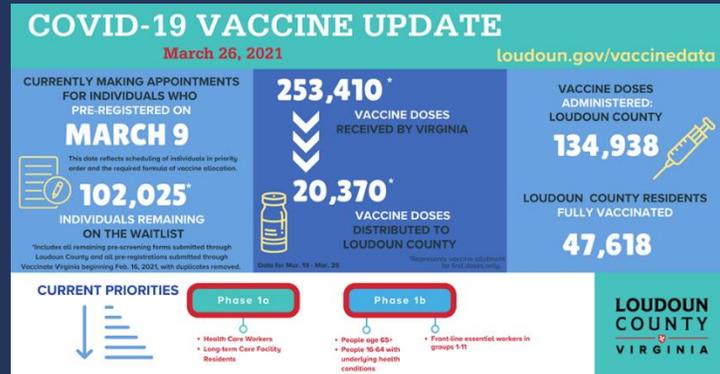
#### **U.S. Transportation Secretary Joins Governor Northam to Announce Major Milestone for Transforming Rail in Virginia, Highlight American Rescue Plan**

Agreements reached to advance construction of a new Long Bridge and transform passenger, commuter, and freight rail in Virginia

[Read the Full Press Release](#)

### Loudoun County Vaccine Update

As of Friday, March 26th, Loudoun County has started offering appointments to individuals who submitted pre-registration forms online or by phone on **March 9, 2021**. This date reflects scheduling of individuals in priority order and the required formula of vaccine allocation.



**Current Waitlist:** There are currently **102,025 people** remaining on the waitlist, up 1,910 since last Friday's report.

- This current waitlist number includes pre-registration forms submitted through the statewide pre-registration system beginning **Feb. 16, 2021**, and pre-registrations through the Loudoun County Health Department prior to 5:00 p.m. on Feb. 12, 2021, with duplicates removed.

Last week, frontline essential workers in the Phase 1b, 4-11 priority groups were added to Loudoun's currently eligible priority groups. We are currently making appointments for individuals in the Phase 1b, 4-11 priority groups who submitted pre-registration forms on **January 31**.

Pre-register for a vaccine now: <https://vaccinate.virginia.gov/>

View the Loudoun Vaccine Data Dashboard: <loudoun.gov/vaccinatedata>

**Health Officials Discourage Travel**



The Loudoun County Health Department continues to discourage non-essential travel, particularly for spring break and upcoming holidays, to slow the spread of COVID-19 and limit the potential of bringing variant forms of the coronavirus back into the community.

A recent investigation of a COVID-19 outbreak suggested that news of vaccination efforts and the arrival of warmer weather has resulted in more and more people becoming less concerned about maintaining social distancing, avoiding crowds and complying with quarantine recommendations. The Health Department continues to recommend against carpooling with members of different households and non-essential travel for leisure.

The guidance includes:

- Avoid crowds.
- Stay 6 feet away at all times from others who do not live in your household.
- Wear a face covering when in public to protect yourself and others.
- Wash hands frequently.

[Read details about the guidance](#)

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## **First Cases of B.1.427 and B.1.429 COVID-19 Variants Reported in Virginia**

The Virginia Department of Health (VDH) recently announced the first cases of the SARS-CoV-2 variants B.1.427 and B.1.429 in samples that were collected between December 2020 and February 2021 from Virginia residents.



Virginia now has identified a total of 14 cases of the B.1.427 variant, nine cases of the B.1.429 variant, 26 cases of the B.1.351 variant (first identified in South Africa) and 127 cases of the B.1.1.7 variant (first identified in the United Kingdom). With the combined state and national surveillance efforts, it is likely that additional cases with SARS-CoV-2 variants of concern will be identified.

Viruses change all the time, and VDH expects to see new variants of the SARS-CoV-2 virus as disease spreads. As our public health officials closely monitor the emergence of these SARS-CoV-2 variants in our Commonwealth, it is critical that all Virginians continue to follow guidelines and mitigation measures.

## REMINDER: Free COVID-19 Testing Events through April

### COVID-19 TESTING

Multiple  
Locations

April 2021

Tuesdays

10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Drive-thru only. Free & open to everyone.

[loudoun.gov/COVID19testing](https://loudoun.gov/COVID19testing)

Loudoun County has scheduled more free, drive thru COVID-19 testing events through April. Beginning March 30, 2021, testing events will be held on Tuesdays only, and end one hour earlier than the testing events held over the past two months. The new COVID-19 testing schedule is now **Tuesdays, 10:00**

**a.m. – 1:00 p.m.** at the following locations:

**April 6:** Philip A. Bolen Memorial Park, 42405 Claudia Drive, Leesburg (Enter the park on Crosstrail Boulevard from Sycolin Road.)

**April 13:** Cascades Library, 21030 Whitfield Place, Potomac Falls (Access the testing location in the back parking lot, near the senior center.)

**April 20:** Dulles South Recreation & Community Center, 24950 Riding Center Drive, South Riding

**April 27:** Ray Muth Sr. Memorial Park, 20971 Marblehead Drive, Ashburn

[Get More Info on Testing Opportunities and Registration Forms](#)

## Renovation Projects at Gwen Thompson Briar Patch Park Underway

The Loudoun County Department of Parks, Recreation and Community Services has announced the start of additional planned renovation projects at Gwen Thompson Briar Patch Park. Current projects include demolition of the existing pavilion and construction of a new pavilion, followed by renovation of the volleyball court.



Previously completed construction and renovation projects at the park include:

- Playground redesign with shade structures and rubber flooring.
- Trail access and replacement.
- Upgraded tennis court, including pickleball.
- Bridge replacements.
- A retaining wall.
- Installation of an outdoor fitness court.
- Swing set replacement.

To ensure the safety of patrons and access for equipment, some areas of the park may be temporarily closed during renovation projects. The public is asked to

respect any construction fencing and signs placed on the property. The new pavilion is expected to be completed by **late May 2021**.

For more information, visit [www.loudoun.gov/prcs](http://www.loudoun.gov/prcs) or email [prcs@loudoun.gov](mailto:prcs@loudoun.gov)

## **DEADLINE: LCSO to Collect Sneakers for MADD Loudoun**



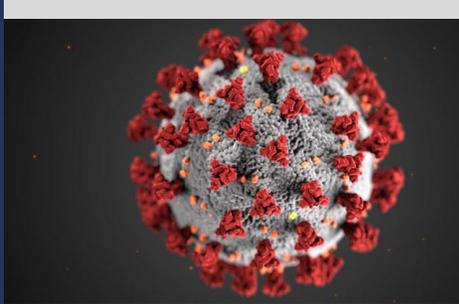
Tomorrow, March 31st is the last day to bring unwanted adult and children's paired sneakers to drop-off locations in support of the Loudoun County Sheriff's Office's partnership with GotSneakers for MADD Loudoun.

The LCSO will accept all styles and conditions of sneakers. After the sneakers are collected, GotSneakers will process and distribute these sneakers around the world specifically within impoverished nations using micro-enterprise partners helping those in need. The sneakers that are damaged are processed and ground into surfaces for playgrounds, gym floors, tracks, outdoor courts, and synthetic turfs.

Drop-off locations between 8:30 am-5:00 pm:

- **Loudoun County Sheriff's Office Headquarters** - 803 Sycolin Road in Leesburg, VA 20177
- **Dulles South Public Safety Center** - 25216 Loudoun County Pkwy, Chantilly, VA 20152
- **Eastern Loudoun Station** - 46620 East Frederick Dr., Sterling, VA 20164
- **Ashburn Station** – 20272 Savin Hill Dr., Ashburn, VA 20147
- **Western Loudoun Station** - 47 W. Loudoun St, Round Hill, VA 20141

## Stay Informed!



The county continues to encourage everyone in the community to take steps to limit the spread of COVID-19, which include:

- Wear a mask/face covering ([see requirements](#))
- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. Use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer only if soap and water are not available.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth.
- Cover your mouth and nose with a

**LOUDOUN  
COUNTY**  
  
**VIRGINIA**

Loudoun County encourages residents to stay informed about COVID-19

- To receive email updates on COVID-19, visit [loudoun.gov/coronavirus](https://loudoun.gov/coronavirus).
- Text **LCCOVID19** to **888777** to receive text alerts from Loudoun County about COVID-19.
- Envíe un mensaje de texto con **LCCOVIDESP** al **888777** para actualizaciones diaras relacionadas con el coronavirus (COVID-19) en el condado de Loudoun.

Residents with questions about COVID-19 may call the Loudoun County Health Department's information line, 703-737-8300, or email [health@loudoun.gov](mailto:health@loudoun.gov).

tissue or your sleeve (not your hands) when coughing or sneezing.

- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.
- Stay home when you are sick.
- Avoid contact with sick people.
- Avoid non-essential travel.

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STAY CONNECTED



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